

REMARKS

Applicant is pleased to acknowledge the allowance of Claims 11-13, 23, 24 and 28 in the Official Action of February 2, 2004. Applicant also acknowledges the indication by the Examiner in the Official Action that Claims 25-27 contain patentable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant believes that the claims as presently amended incorporate the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter.

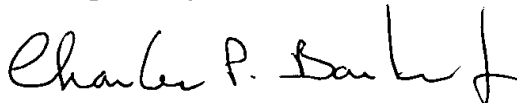
Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of dependent Claim 26 indicated by the Examiner to contain allowable subject matter. Claim 26 has been canceled. Amended Claim 27 is dependent on Claim 1. Claim 25 has been canceled and rewritten in independent form as new Claim 29 which contains all of the limitations previously recited in Claims 1 and 25. Dependent Claims 2 and 3 have been amended to be consistent in terminology with amended Claim 1.

Based on the Examiner's indication that dependent Claims 25-27 recite patentable subject matter, applicant has rewritten Claims 25 and 26 in independent form (Claim 29 and Claim 1, respectively). Claim 27 remains in dependent form. Applicant believes that the amended Claim 1, dependent Claim 27 and new Claim 29 define patentable subject matter over the prior art references of record.

Further, in view of the Examiner's comments, applicant believes that Claims 2-3, 5-7, 9-10, 16-22 which are dependent on amended Claim 1 define patentable subject matter over the prior art references of record and are now in condition for allowance.

For the foregoing reasons, applicant submits that the pending claims define patentable subject matter and requests allowance of all claims in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Charles P. Boukus, Jr.", written in black ink.

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Listing Of Claims - Application No. 09/919,992 (04/02/04)

1. (Currently Amended) A razor comprising a blade unit carrying structure on which a blade unit is permanently or detachably mounted for pivotal movement relative to the blade unit carrying structure about a predetermined pivot axis extending longitudinally through the blade unit, and a delivery system for conducting a fluid dispensed from a reservoir connected to the blade unit carrying structure to at least one discharge port, wherein the discharge port has an opening located at or close to the predetermined pivot axis of the blade unit for discharging the fluid through said opening directly to the skin at or near the predetermined pivot axis, and the discharge port is defined by a tubular member extending through said blade unit and terminating at a position at or adjacent to the pivot axis of the blade unit.

2. (Currently Amended) A razor according to claim 1, wherein the discharge port opening is defined by the tubular member ~~a part~~ which remains stationary with respect to the blade unit carrying structure during pivotal movement of the blade unit about the predetermined axis.

3. (Currently Amended) A razor according to claim 2, wherein the tubular member ~~stationary part~~ is not mechanically coupled directly to the blade unit.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) A razor according to claim 1, wherein the blade unit includes a channel for distributing fluid delivered through the discharge port across the blade unit in the direction of the pivot axis.

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6. (Previously Presented) A razor according to claim 5, wherein the channel extends substantially parallel to the pivot axis.

7. (Previously Presented) A razor according to claim 6, wherein the channel is open continuously along the length thereof to allow fluid to pass out of the channel.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) A razor according to claim 1, wherein the blade unit carrying structure is movably connected to a supporting structure and is movable relative to the supporting structure for actuating a valve included in the delivery system to control flow of fluid to the discharge port.

10. (Previously Presented) A razor according to claim 9, wherein the blade unit carrying structure is hingedly coupled to the supporting structure for the valve to be actuated by movement of the blade unit carrying structure caused by pressing the blade unit against the skin during shaving.

11. (Previously Presented) A razor comprising a blade unit carrying structure on one end of which a blade unit is permanently or detachably mounted for pivotal movement relative to the carrying structure about a predetermined pivot axis extending longitudinally through the blade unit, an opposite end of the blade unit carrying structure being hingedly connected to a supporting structure, a delivery system for conducting a fluid to the blade unit from a reservoir, the delivery system including a valve for controlling supply of fluid to the blade unit, the blade unit carrying structure being coupled to the valve for the valve to be actuated by displacement of the blade unit carrying structure relative to the supporting structure

caused by pressing the blade unit against the skin during shaving, and the blade unit carrying structure being resiliently biased to close the valve when the blade unit is lifted clear of the skin, and wherein the blade unit carrying structure and the supporting structure are integrally connected by at least one flexible web which defines a second pivot axis about which the blade carrying structure is pivotable relative to the supporting structure.

12. (Previously Presented) A razor blade unit carrying structure on one end of which a blade unit is permanently or detachably mounted for pivotal movement relative to the carrying structure about a predetermined pivot axis extending longitudinally through the blade unit, the carrying structure including a delivery duct for conducting a fluid supplied from a reservoir to the blade unit, an opposite end of the carrying structure being hingedly coupled to a supporting structure for a valve which is operable to control supply of fluid to the delivery duct from the reservoir to be actuated by displacement of the blade unit carrying structure relative to the supporting structure at the hinge coupling therebetween caused by pressing the blade unit against the skin during shaving, and wherein the blade unit carrying structure and the supporting structure are integrally connected by at least one flexible web which defines a second pivot axis about which the blade carrying structure is pivotable relative to the supporting structure.

13. (Previously Presented) A razor according to claim 11, wherein the blade unit carrying structure and the supporting structure are integrally connected.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A razor as defined in claim 13 14, wherein the supporting structure comprises a ring to which the blade unit carrying structure is integrally connected by a pair of laterally opposed webs.

16. (Previously Presented) A razor according to claim 9, wherein the reservoir is formed by a container having a rim surrounding the valve, and the supporting structure is firmly attached to the container at the rim thereof.

17. (Previously Presented) A razor according to claim 16, wherein the supporting structure has a friction or snap-fit engagement with the container rim.

18. (Previously Presented) A razor according to claim 15, wherein the blade unit carrying structure has a stop for abutment with the container rim to define an end position from which the blade unit carrying structure is pivotable to actuate the valve.

19. (Previously Presented) A razor according to claim 16, wherein the valve includes a valve member protruding beyond the container rim and into an inlet aperture formed by the blade unit carrying structure.

20. (Previously Presented) A razor according to claim 19, wherein the inlet aperture is defined by an annular sealing member.

21. (Previously Presented) A razor according to claim 20, wherein the valve member cooperates with an annular valve seat and is capable of tilting to open the valve.

22. (Previously Presented) A razor according to claim 9, wherein the blade unit carrying structure comprises a hollow stem structure extending from a flanged base, the base being engagable by a finger of a hand in which the razor is held for selectively displacing the blade unit carrying structure to actuate the valve.

23. (Previously Presented) A razor according to claim 11, wherein the blade unit is supported by the blade unit carrying structure with its longitudinal axis substantially parallel to the second pivot axis defined by the web.

24. (Previously Presented) A razor according to claim 12, wherein the blade unit is supported by the blade unit carrying structure with its longitudinal axis substantially parallel to the second pivot axis defined by the web.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) A razor according to claim ~~26~~ 1, wherein the blade unit includes an elastomeric element surrounding and sealing against the tubular member adjacent the discharge port.

28. (Previously Presented) A razor comprising a blade unit carrying structure on which a blade unit is permanently or detachably mounted for pivotal movement relative to the blade unit carrying structure about a predetermined pivot axis extending longitudinally through the blade unit, and a delivery system for conducting a fluid dispensed from a reservoir connected to the blade unit carrying structure to at least one discharge port, wherein the discharge port has an opening located at or close to the predetermined pivot axis for discharging the fluid to the

blade unit at a guard surface at or near the predetermined pivot axis, and wherein the discharge port is defined by a tubular member, and the blade unit includes an elastomeric skin contacting element having a lip surrounding and sealing against the tubular member adjacent the discharge port.

29. (New) A razor comprising a blade unit carrying structure on which a blade unit is permanently or detachably mounted for pivotal movement relative to the blade unit carrying structure about a predetermined pivot axis extending longitudinally through the blade unit, and a delivery system for conducting a fluid dispensed from a reservoir connected to the blade unit carrying structure to at least one discharge port, wherein the discharge port has an opening located at or close to the predetermined pivot axis for discharging the fluid at or near the predetermined pivot axis, and wherein the discharge port is defined by a tubular member, and the blade unit includes an elastomeric element surrounding and sealing against the tubular member adjacent the discharge port.